

INSIDE
THIS WEEK:

LETTER FROM KENYA

Life certainly is different for the Canada
World Youth participants

PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

The district health unit is the lead agency in
the fight against a flu pandemic

HEALTHY EATING

Convincing children that chips aren't a
good snack is easier with health unit's help

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THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2006

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The future face of main street

Will two new dollar stores be good for downtown economy?

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

It should be easy.

Haliburton is situated on a beautiful lake that provides a natural draw to the village. Local contractors can't keep up with the amount of construction going on. Escalating real estate prices are bringing people with deep pockets to the surrounding lakes.

With all of these factors going for it, you'd think the village would have a thriving main street. But talk to business owners and they'll tell you that owning a retail store in Haliburton is a tough sell.

This story started as a simple update on changes about to take place in downtown Haliburton but as the *Echo* talked to business owners about their plans, much bigger issues began to emerge.

Is Haliburton's main street regressing in spite of an economy that seems to be growing?

Since the local population isn't enough to sustain retail stores year-round, can anything be done to convince cottagers and tourists to make the trip into town to shop for more than groceries?

Who has the creativity and financing it will take to fill the empty retail spaces?

"It's a real challenge to be a retailer in Haliburton," says Laurie Bonfield, who opened Country Pickin's in 1983.

Andy Glecoff, who bought the V&S

See **Dollar** page 8



DARREN LUM/Echo

Sliding into the new year

Laura Steinkemp and her husband Maarten, who is behind her on the toboggan, take flight off a snow ramp behind the Adult Learning Centre in Haliburton on Thursday, Dec. 29. The couple are Kennis Lake cottagers and had relatives from Hollar and visiting the area during the holidays.

Frost Centre to stay in public hands

LANCE CROSSLEY

Staff Reporter

The spirit of the Leslie M. Frost Centre and its history of environmental education will be preserved after all.

Following several months of suspense, the Ontario Realty Corporation has finally announced its intentions for the dormant Frost Centre, saying it wants to lease the 39-acre property for purposes of "environmental and outdoor education activities".

Its decision to lease the property instead of selling it promises to keep the mandate of the centre within the public

domain.

"Keeping it on lease from the government ensures it will serve that broader use of education. If it was sold to the private sector, who knows what would have happened to it," says Barrie Martin, a board member at Friends of the Frost Centre, a non-profit group that intends to submit a tender to the government.

Martin was pleased by the province's decision to honour the key recommendations of the Frost Centre Working Committee, which were submitted to the government last summer.

The ORC will lease the property on a long-term basis and wants the successful

tender to commit to a year-round operation.

Soliciting tenders will be a two-fold process. The first stage - called "Expressions of Interest and Request for Qualifications" (RFQ) - will identify suitable candidates who are willing to finance and operate the Frost Centre in manner consistent with its environmental mandate.

Although a detailed business plan is not required at this stage, the government does want to gauge the candidate's intentions. The deadline for final RFQ submissions is Feb. 24 but the govern-

See **Economic** page 2

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Economic sustainability is main criterion for winning Frost Centre bid

from page 1

ment has set Jan. 24 as the cut-off date for applicant registration.

"Our biggest concern is the turn-around time," says Friends of the Frost Centre Chairman Max Radiff. "The government's been sitting on this for six months and now all of a sudden we've got to be done in a few weeks. But we're going to plow ahead with our proposal because we still think we have the best solution for the Frost Centre."

Friends of the Frost Centre is already looking for a consultant to help form its proposal.

"We have to be able to show we are financially qualified to pull this off," says Radiff. "That's going to be tough for us to do in this short amount of time because we are still talking to people."

Selected candidates will be notified in

mid-March and advance to stage two, where a standard Request for Proposal will be issued. The ORC will likely meet at least once with these applicants and has set April 28 as the final deadline for those submissions.

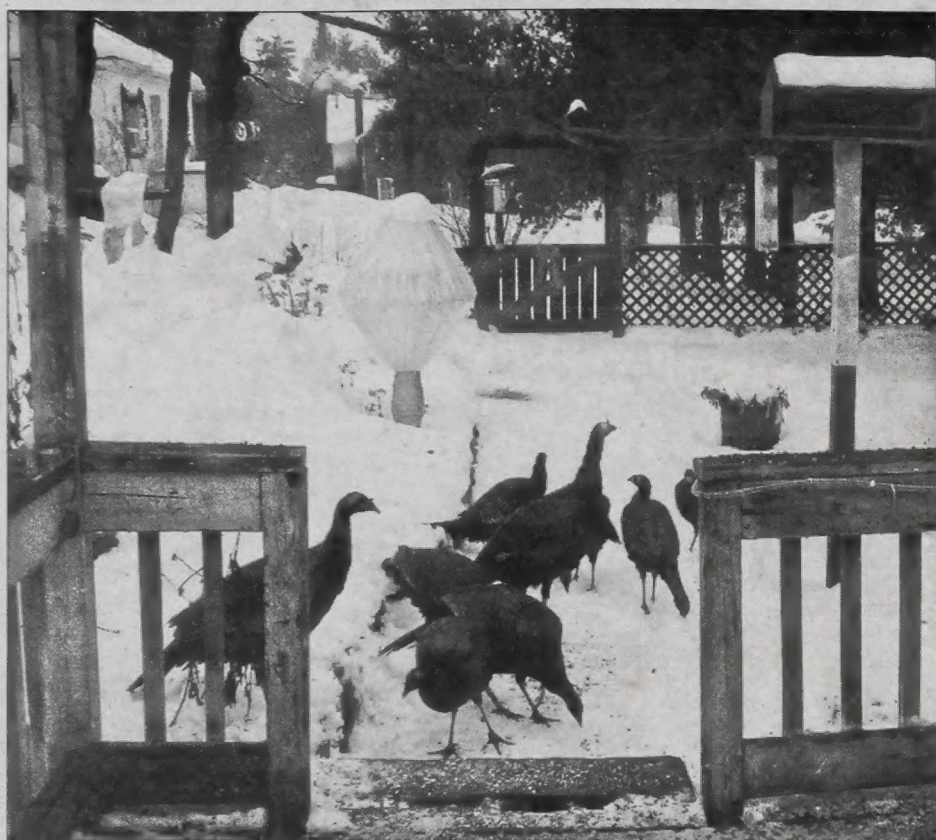
"The government's been sitting on this for six months and now all of a sudden we have to be done in a few weeks"

MAX RADIFF

While the primary objective of the new Frost Centre will be environmental education, the province says it is open to compatible secondary uses. It has made it clear that any future operation cannot inhibit public access to the existing walking trails that fall on the centre's campus. The

province says it is also willing to consider submissions that ask for only some of its land and buildings.

The most important criteria for RFQ candidates will be their operational concepts, their ability to finance it, and their ability to show its economic sustainability.



Christmas dinner

Ever since her birthday in early December, Suzanne Anderson of Tory Hill has been regularly visited by a flock of wild turkeys that has developed a taste for the easy pickings in her bird feeder. It was tempting to take more than a picture of her skitish visitors when Christmas dinner was being prepared but she's content with just having them drop by for a quick lunch. Don't forget - hunting wild turkeys in Haliburton County is not yet permitted.

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A letter from Kenya



This is the plain of Nadungoro taken from just outside the home of the Canada World Youth participants. That's Mt. Kenya in the distance.

Dear Hosts and
community members in Haliburton!

WRITING FROM Nanyuki, Kenya, it hardly seems four weeks ago that the Canada World Youth team said goodbye on that frosty morning at the arena (Kuntai showed me the photos the other day, and it definitely looked frosty!) A lot of great program moments have happened since then and I'll try to capture a few of them here.

You may be wondering why you haven't heard much from your long lost children. Well, the group is now staying in Nadungoro, and at the Il Ngwesi Lodge. Both are remote, and travelling overland to the nearest town with Internet (where I am now) depends on hiring a truck at great expense and a long, bone-rattling ride. But rest assured that all are healthy and very happy.

Moving into the community was smooth. We were met at a primary school (the one Kuntai and others walked to and from years ago - uphill, both ways) by dozens of community members and groups of youth, and older women who treated us to song and dance that many of you would be familiar with.

Afterwards we all moved into Nadungoro together, and commenced work on the community run tree nursery started by Saaya and others before leaving for Canada.

After the first week, which also included time for our community orientation and settling in, the first rotation of team members (Wambui, Claudia, Jacee, Elizabeth, Vincent and Kisio) moved to the community-run eco-lodge, to live with the staff and assist with running the lodge, and security and research projects there.

We came together on the 24th to celebrate the holiday as a team, exchanging handmade gifts and roasting and eating a goat around a fire in the woods. Not exactly the Christmas many are used to, but then again living in a community with no electricity (aside from a few solar panels) and no stores to speak of, set a context of time spent together and



These are three of Kuntai and Saaya's young brothers. The boys at right and left are twins, who Boylan has nicknamed Troublemaker 1 and Troublemaker 2. Boys will be boys....



The Canadian and Kenyan CWY participants, including Mike Boylan, second from left, are now living together at Nadungoro and the Il Ngwesi Lodge, far from Internet access. Far from just about everything, really.

with family as the important thing. Many have commented on how nice it is not to be bombarded by commercialism during the season. Thanks to the marvel of technology a number of the participants were able to make cell phone calls home.

The team is also together today, touring two neighbouring communities with successful tree nurseries, and spending New Year's together in Nadungoro.

By the way, I am able to check my e-mail more regularly than the participants and can print out and pass along any messages you would like to send them. And yes, we're all waiting for Patrick to submit another spectacular article to the *Echo*. His family this time around is definitely *not* vegetarian. We'll have to wait and see.

There have been a lot of very fond memories shared around the dinner fire and during our meetings of our time in Haliburton. The energy and compassion of so many of you will clearly be remembered for a long time, thank you. On behalf of the team I hope you've had a safe and happy holiday and here's to a wonderful New Year!

All the best, and keep in touch!

Mike Boylan
Canada World Youth group leader

Back in September, a group of nine Canadian and nine Kenyan young people arrived in Haliburton village to begin the first leg of their Canada World Youth experience. While here they volunteered with several local organizations and lived with host families. In mid-December they flew to Kenya where they will be working on environmentally-sustainable projects.

Health unit will play pivotal role in event of a flu pandemic

LANCE CROSSLEY

Staff Reporter

"By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail."

That was the prudent advice once put forth by Benjamin Franklin. It's a dictum that may be centuries old but it holds true today – especially when you talk about preparing for a potential killer flu.

If a influenza pandemic like the bird flu strikes the general population, as many experts are predicting, it will affect virtually every community across the country simultaneously, which means effective contingency plans on the local level will literally be a matter of life and death for some.

One of the main agencies responsible for pandemic response in this particular jurisdiction is the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

Younous Manjoura, the health unit's pandemic influenza preparedness manager, says planning involves two parallel strategies: one for employees and one for the general public. With the likelihood that one third of staff will be absent because of either falling ill or having a family member infected with the virus, Manjoura says the Health Unit must sort its priorities ahead of time. A labour shortage of that magnitude would likely mean scrapping routine health inspections and educational programs so that it will still have personnel to investigate outbreaks – whether it be avian flu or rabies.

It also helps to know in advance the skill set of your workers.

"We survey our staff so we know exactly what skills they have," says Manjoura, who assumed the newly-created position in August and works out



Health officials say getting an annual flu shot is a good preventative measure in counteracting a possible pandemic such as the H5N1 virus. It is in the midst of preparing for a widely expected world-wide killer flu.

of the HKPR office in Port Hope. "For example, we have a lot of nurses who do health promotion who can be transferred to do mass immunization."

But the real mandate of the health unit is to reduce the impact of a pandemic on the general population. This particular contingency plan is taken directly from the World Health Organization and involves everything from health promotion, to outbreak surveillance, to administering immunizations.

In any strong contingency plan, health promotion is taking place long before any pandemic arrives. One of the things the health unit heavily promotes is proper hand washing – scrubbing your hands with hot water and soap for a good 15-20 seconds. Manjoura says more also has to be done in counteracting "urban myths" that suggest annual flu shots are not worth getting.

"If you take a flu shot every year you increase your general immunity. Secondly, if you get infected by the avian flu [directly from the bird population]

you decrease the chances of that avian flu mutating into human form."

Keeping tabs on outbreaks in the community is another key responsibility. The health unit will be closely monitoring absenteeism in local schools to keep track of any unusual increases in influenza-like illnesses. A similar monitoring program will be implemented to keep an eye on absenteeism in large companies.

The health unit also has a volunteer-based arrangement with certain doctors. These doctors will send swab samples from patients with suspicious symptoms to a public health laboratory.

In the event of an actual influenza outbreak, Manjoura says social gatherings will be discouraged. Things such as school closures will be a possibility.

"School closures will create other problems because somebody has to take care of the children," says Manjoura. "You have to wait and carefully consider if it's best to keep schools open or not."

Even though a vaccine would likely take many months to develop, the health

unit will ultimately be responsible for distributing immunizations. Priority would be given to health professionals and those in long-term care homes.

One of the challenges for developing an immunization response is the large geographic area within the health unit's jurisdiction – an area that includes Haliburton County, City of Kawartha Lakes, and Northumberland County. Logistical problems are formidable in large rural areas, which makes the importance of preserving the health of the health unit workforce all the more vital.

Manjoura says that plans for antiviral distribution have many unanswered questions. Antivirals like Tamiflu and Relenza are known to impede the progress of the flu virus but typically have to be taken within 48 hours of the person becoming infected, which is usually before any symptoms become apparent. Officials worry that widespread use of antiviral will cause the virus to develop immunity and to mutate into a new form.



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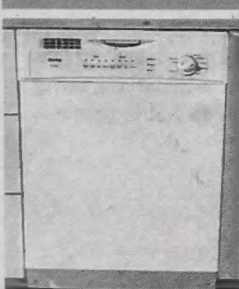
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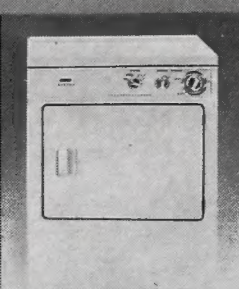
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Snowbirds can cast their vote before they fly south

LANCE CROSSLEY

Staff Reporter

Elections Canada is rather accommodating when it comes to ensuring everyone gets to exercise their vote. For those snowbirds in the county who just can't wait until January 23 to cast their ballot, the government agency provides a few opportunities to get your vote in.

The two main avenues for early voters are advance voting polls and special ballot voting. Advance voting stations will open at the Minden Community Centre and the Haliburton Legion on Jan. 13, 14, and 16. Voters can also drive down to the returning office in Lindsay any time up until January 17 and fill out a ballot.

"The difference is that special ballot voting is open all the time," says Returning Officer Jerry J. Ford. "So for long distance commuters, they have to drive [to Lindsay], whereas advance ballots will be in their region."

The returning office is in suite 4 at 55 Angeline Street North in Lindsay.

In both cases, voters need to bring identification that shows their name, address, and signature. Ford says the best document to bring is a driver's licence because it meets all three criteria.

Snowbirds who are already basking in the Florida sun can go online to the Elections Canada website and download an application. But Ford warns that at this

point time is of the essence because it has to be processed at the Ottawa office.

Ford also reminds newcomers to the riding to change their information. Registered voters voting for the first time in this riding can call the Lindsay office (1-866-238-7133) and ask that their information be revised to reflect their current residence. Give yourself a little time prior to Jan. 23 because election officials will send you a form to sign and send back.

Ford says the quickest way to update your information is to drop by the returning office with your driver's licence.

The returning office in Lindsay is open Monday to Friday 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday 12 p.m.-4 p.m.

Expect the local campaign trail to pick up now that the holidays are over. Candidates from all parties gave voters a break for the holidays but are already revving their engines in anticipation for the final leg of the federal race.

Conservative incumbent Barry Devolin was in Haliburton on January 3 knocking on doors and canvassing shops along Highland St.

Meanwhile, word out of Liberal opponent Greg Walling's camp is that one or two high profile ministers may make a personal visit to the riding.

"The national party has taken an interest in this riding," says Freya Lilius, regional director for the campaign. "Greg is a strong candidate and people are starting to realize that."

“Special ballot voting is available all the time [but] people have to drive to Lindsay. Advance ballots will be in their region”

JERRY J. FORD

”

Library changes its website

The Haliburton County Public Library is ringing in the New Year with a new website. So as you try to remember that 2005 is now 2006, you should also bookmark the new address on your computer.

Joel Levis, county librarian, says that while the old address will still be valid for some time, "The real action has shifted to our new locale in a fancier neighbourhood."

The new online public access catalogue offers many new approaches to meeting the informational and recreational interests of the county's users. There are now more coloured icons, reviews, and selections from individual titles, the capability to establish your own reading lists and, of course, the ability to place interloans from any computer at any time of the day or night.

"How you use it is up to you and is limited only by your imagination," Levis says.

The best way to learn about it is to sign on and explore and while staff are always willing to help you, the best way to learn is to "just do it", Levis says. "You can't hurt it", he adds, "So go for it".

The system will be evolving and changing on a regular basis as new features are added.

OPP plans truck seminar

On January 17, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. officers from the Ministry of Transportation in Huntsville and the Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment will be at the Minden Community Centre conducting a light truck and trailer seminar.

Dealerships, commercial businesses and truck and trailer owners are invited to attend. Topics will include vehicle permits, gross vehicle weights, trailers and under 4500kgs, driver's licences and annual inspections. There is no fee or registration required.

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Whither main street?

IF YOU HAD ENOUGH MONEY to invest in a retail store in downtown Haliburton, would you? What sort of store do you think would work? Do you believe there's the right mix of customers to make a go of it?

echo

editorial

martha perkins

those people who are willing to put their money on the line, a crystal ball sure would come in handy.

It seems like we have all the right ingredients: a location next to a lake, more affluent retirees moving to the area, a fairly captive market of local shoppers and a huge pool of cottagers who could be enticed to do a bit more shopping once they pick up their groceries.

But here are a few of our downsides:

- the biggest percentage of our population is older than 60. Those who have lived here all their lives tend to be on a fixed income. Those baby boomers who are retiring here have just downsized after moving from their home in the city. Not only do they already have most of the things they need, but they go back to the city often enough to buy what they want. There are no new subdivisions filled with young families who need to fill all those extra rooms. Most young families here are putting most of their income into their mortgages.

- we're not on the way to anywhere. It's hard to draw shoppers from other areas.

- the beautiful Highland hills make it expensive to find appropriate land and the lake in the middle of town, while pretty, takes up a lot of available space.

- many new businesses tend to be underfinanced. Maybe the owners think every month is July or August. They're on too tight a margin to tide them through a wet summer or snowless winter.

- oh yes, the weather. We depend on it but she is a fickle mistress.

Perhaps because of all the challenges listed above, there seems to be a new trend in town to go cheap. Even though real estate prices are the highest they've ever been, the people opening stores are going after the budget shopper. That person might not spend much but at least they're spending.

Rest assured, if Haliburton's main street is targeted to budget shoppers that will indeed be the only shopper we'll get. It will become a self-fulfilling prophecy. We won't give the person who has more disposable income a reason to come to town and then we'll say that we have to go bargain because there are no shoppers with disposable incomes. While the bargain segment of the market is important, it seems a shame that we don't have the collective confidence to try to attract shoppers who will spend more money. With Fleming College providing us with so many people who have an interest in arts, couldn't our main street be a bit more creative?

When Stuart Brandon closed Northland Sales, his family's retail store, he said that he could compete on price, he could compete on quality but he couldn't compete with the entertainment value of going out of town for a day of shopping. We need to make shopping in Haliburton another form of recreation. It needs to be fun and the merchandise needs to be interesting. Is that possible?

Solving the problems of Haliburton's main street is so easy for all of us armchair business owners. It's not our money we're risking so the answers seem obviously simple. But for



Shrouded in mystery

Photo by DARREN LUM/ECHO

Survival of the fittest

THE OTHER DAY I was researching fire-making techniques in order to find more creative ways to set alight the socks of whoever happens to be sleeping on the couch at hunt camp.

Unfortunately, I got sidetracked from this important task when my Internet search took me to a survival school web site where, among other things, they taught you useful things like how to start a fire with nothing but a Coke can and a chocolate bar.

Apparently, you utilize the chocolate as a rubbing compound to polish the bottom of the can until it takes on a mirror-like sheen. Once this happens, you then use the mirror to reflect and focus the sun's rays onto the tinder you have gathered.

Of course, this is incredibly useful to most outdoors people. I mean, once you've mastered this technique, you will never again have to worry about becoming hopelessly lost in the dead of winter while returning home from the convenience store. Unless, of course, you eat your chocolate bar and drink your soda before you realize the severity of the situation.

Even if you did, though, the experts at the web site say that everything will be all right as long as you remain calm — which, admittedly, isn't an easy thing to do once you've ingested all that sugar and caffeine from the Coke and chocolate bar.

But say you do manage to burn off all that energy by running headlong through the dark woods singing "I'd like to teach the world to sing," then what?

Well, that's when you start being creative. For instance, when you are lost, did you know that you could make several snares out of the wires in your GPS unit? Or that you could use your cell phone to prompt a

rescue? Simply don't pay your provider for a month or two and they're sure to find you.

Likewise, if you hook up half a dozen double-A batteries to the genitalia of a beaver, you have a primitive but serviceable chain saw. Do your best, however, to avoid the exhaust.

The point is, outdoors survival is simply a matter of innovation and presence of mind. Say, for instance, you are stranded somewhere along a river. Unless you are in the Hudson Bay lowlands, you should start walking downstream. The odds are then good that you might find a settlement, or even a boat that a trapper has stashed.

I found myself in a situation like this once. Luckily, I stumbled upon a boat and motor. Needless to say, I was overjoyed. Using that boat, it took me no time at all to gather enough material to construct a crude raft. By the way, I should also point out that if you are in the Hudson's Bay lowlands you are travelling way too far just to buy a chocolate bar and a Coke. I know that now.

In any case, these survival web sites are not just run by armchair outdoorsmen who have just enough knowledge to be dangerous. No sir, these people often know how to navigate across the wilderness by utilizing nothing but the stars and a few distant streetlights. When they tell you to eat bugs for protein it's because this is important, although it probably wouldn't have been if you hadn't wasted your chocolate bar polishing a Coke can.

Actually, I learned a lot from that web site. This year at hunt camp, I won't complain when they confiscate my lighter each time I enter the cabin. Instead I'll just smile good-naturedly and ask for a Coke to go with my chocolate bar.

the not so great



steve galea

outdoorsman

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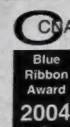
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Late for the party

WHEN AGATHA SET OUT, she had no idea this would be a New Year's Eve to tell her children about. Instead, she was more concerned about her outfit. Her cousin was having a big bash in the city and Agatha was going to spend the night, returning home the next day, she hoped, without a headache from all the partying she planned to do.

Agatha wanted to look terrific. There would be some single men as well as the usual couples and relatives and Agatha was tired of being single herself. So she blew her budget and bought a little black dress that made her feel like a movie star.

She set out in the early twilight of December 31st, just as the moon appeared. Three hours of travel would take her to her cousin Jerry's in time for a quick supper before getting ready for the party. Having fed the cats, turned off the lights and lowered the thermostat, she figured she had thought of everything. Her car was full of gas and windshield wiper fluid and she knew the way to Jerry's by heart.



sharon
lynch

down
our
road

The road was a little slippery but then there had been a big snowfall two days ago, followed by a mild spell that had brought rain. Now the air was snapping cold and the moisture had turned to ice.

At not quite the halfway point, she ran into a change in the weather. The moon that had followed her down the highway had disappeared behind a curtain of quickly moving clouds. A wind had picked up, and in her little car she could feel it pushing through the open farm fields she drove past, unchecked by trees or houses.

Surprisingly, there were few vehicles on the road and Agatha was glad of that. The last thing she wanted was someone tailgating her or crawling along ahead, way below the speed limit. Then the snow began, a few flakes at first but quickly thickening to a dense curtain. Now Agatha wondered if she was driving into some kind of snowstorm. In her rush to get ready, she had not caught the weather forecast and suddenly the lack of other drivers on the road took on a new meaning.

The wind was unabated and turned the heavy snowfall into a slanting wall of white. Like an explorer moving through unknown territory, she saw she was making the only tracks on the snowy highway. Feeling quite alone, she tightened her hands on the steering wheel and forged ahead.

Without warning, a deer leapt onto the roadway, blinded by her headlights. Agatha slammed on the brakes and the car spun around suddenly and slid rapidly off to the side. She had no idea where she was headed; everything was white. She wondered if this meant she might miss the party.

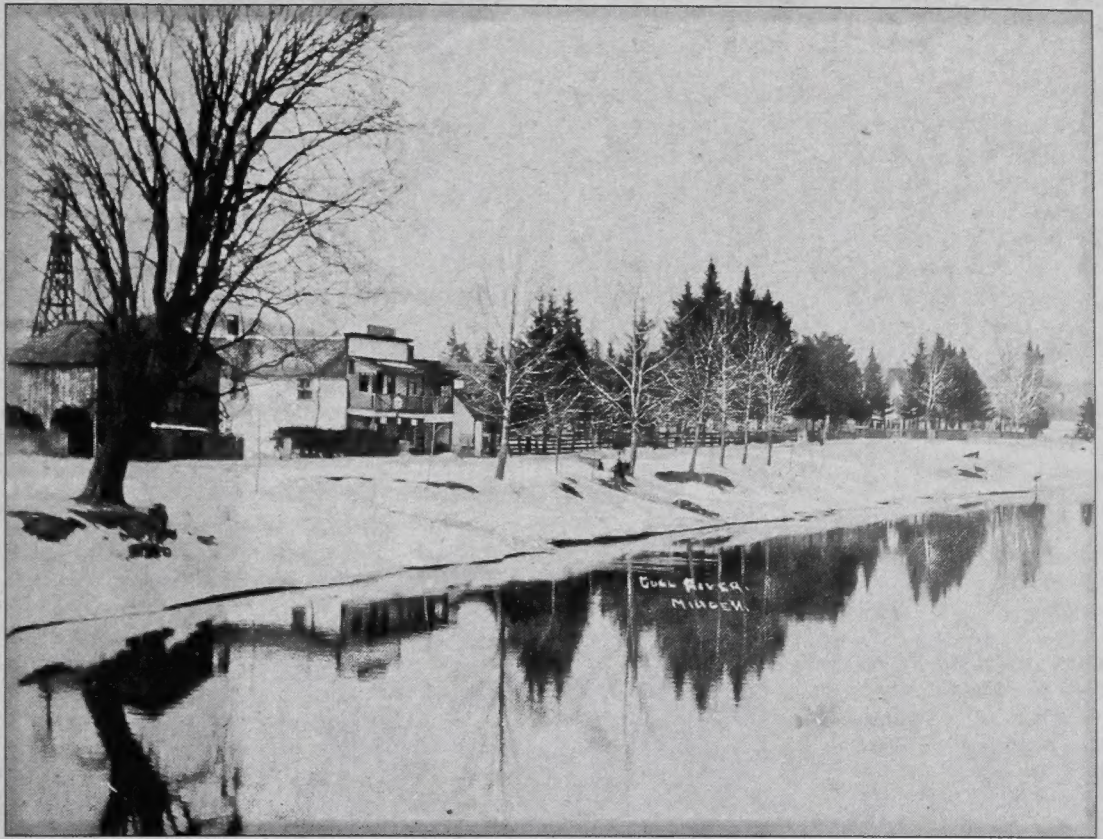
Her car came to rest with a loud but muffled whump followed by nothing. Realizing the motor was still running, Agatha turned off the ignition and took a deep breath. Silence. She sat there for a moment, fighting the fear she felt rising in her stomach. Agatha was not sure of her exact location but she knew she was off the road somewhere outside Beaverton. When she turned out her headlights, the darkness was as deep as a well.

Should she try to get out and walk for help, she wondered wildly, or stay put? Pushing to open the car door was impossible in the deep snow but she was able to get out on the passenger's side. She had to crawl upward across the seats since her car was angled into a snowbank. Her legs dangled for a second before touching, then sinking into, the white landscape that surrounded her. Now that her eyes had adjusted to the darkness, she saw she was not very far from the highway but would be hard to spot with the blowing snow.

It was cold. The jeans, jacket and light boots she wore offered little protection from the elements as Agatha made her way back toward the road. So far she had seen no headlights and was nervous about standing on the side of the highway for fear of being hit in the storm. She wondered if it would be better to return to her car but it would soon be as cold as a tomb. At least this way she was moving, although she was not sure in what direction.

Staying as far off the highway as she could manage, Agatha began walking, praying for lights of any kind. The wind whistled past her ears. She didn't even have a hat but pulled up her hood and held it there with cold, gloved fingers. She wondered if she would die, then immediately dismissed the thought as unacceptable.

What was important now was to put one foot in front of the other, pulling her steps through the deep and tugging snow, body hunched against the wind, ears straining for any sound but her own breathing. The New Year's Eve party seemed ridiculously inconsequential as she prayed for someone to come along soon. Agatha didn't even care about her car. The only thing that mattered right now was that she was alive. To be safe, warm and not alone seemed an almost impossible dream. Then she saw headlights off in the distance, barely visible through the storm. Looking braver than she felt, Agatha stepped onto the middle of the highway and began waving her arms furiously. The truck started to slow down.



pic of the past

IN THE WINTER OF 1907, a snowfall turned the Gull River of Minden into a beautiful picture postcard. Our thanks to Stanhope Museum archivist Carol Moffatt for sharing this photo with us.

letters to the editor

Handgun ban targets the wrong group

To the Editor:

The announcement on December 8, 2005, by Prime Minister Paul Martin stating "I have come to the conclusion that we should ban handguns" should be a concern of many residents in Haliburton County.

The timing of the announcement couldn't have been better orchestrated - on the anniversary of John Lennon's death and in concert with a rash of shootings in Metropolitan Toronto. And made from a troubled location in the city during an election campaign.

That announcement affirms the long-suspected agenda of the Liberal Party to eventually eliminate private ownership of all firearms in Canada. The proposed ban on handguns is only the tip of the iceberg leading to bans on rifles and shotguns.

Not surprising for those who have been observing the progression of various anti firearms activities. For over a decade, law-abiding Canadian hunters, target shooters, and firearms competitors have been the targets of almost relentless legislation, registrations, and anti gun rhetoric.

See **Firearm** page 12

Let's not forget our veterans

To the Editor:

This is the end of the Year of the Veteran and, it's hoped, the dawn of a new understanding and appreciation by this generation who never heard "the old war stories" as we did when we were growing up.

As a child I was fascinated by what the people of that time had to endure. Since I've grown up I have had the opportunity to meet not only Canadians who fought but English people from Sheffield where the steel works and surrounding areas were bombed continually and Germans who were used as slave labour by the Russians, etc.. Each group has a story to tell but there is one underlying fact for them all: "War is Hell." It's an experience that not one of them would care to repeat.

Many of these people, although in their seventies and eighties now, are still trying to cope with the atrocities of a lifetime ago. These people were teenagers then, full of big ideas and ideals; by war's end they were old, not physically but mentally and emotionally. Others were broken in spirit and committed suicide at the end of the war or returned home to shattered lives if they were lucky enough to have a home to go back to.

After growing up with the stories and watching our parents try to cope with the past we still have no idea what they have been through so how do

See **Keep** page 12

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur



Although January is always the slowest month on Haliburton's main street, retail is a tough sell for most of the year. Business owners say there isn't the population base to sustain businesses year-round and wish more could be done to attract more shoppers.

DARREN LUM/Echo



Dollar stores will compete for bargain shoppers

from page 1

department store 10 years ago after a career with Zellers, agrees. "You've got to know what you're doing if you want to make money in Haliburton and you don't sell food," he says. "You don't have the traffic."

It all boils down to not having enough customers in the spending age range to support stores year-round. Haliburton County has the highest percentage of seniors in the province and seniors already have nearly everything they need. When they do spend, many are looking for bargains. At the other end of the age range, most young people have to move out of the county to make a go of it. There are few good-paying jobs to keep them here.

Cottagers are important supporters of the retail sector but you need to give them a reason to come downtown other than the grocery store, Bonfield says.

"They decorate, that's what they do," and yet Haliburton has lost two of its best gift stores: Paulette's and Cranberry Cottage (which closes this week. It's going to become an artist's studio.)

She'd like to see something like a Bed, Bath and Linen or home décor store move to main street.

Of course, January is never the best month to talk about the future of retailing. "It's dead out there," she

says of the annual post-Christmas lull in business.

Bonfield's clothing store has become an anchor for the western end of the main street but even so, she must work hard to keep her customer base. She's constantly changing her displays and inventory to keep people coming through the doors.

Country Pickin's was the first main street store to open Sundays and "everyone thought I was crazy." Then most businesses decided to open for the seventh day and the shoppers responded. This year, however, she's going to close on Sundays in the winter.

She's being deliberately facetious when she wonders whether it's getting to the point when retailers will go back to being closed on Wednesdays, which was a long-standing Haliburton tradition of a couple of decades ago.

"It's a pretty little town overlooking the lake and we're going to lose that," she says. "But how are we going to find anyone to take a risk?"

At the other end of town, Curry Motors' owner Don Popple says that the economy must be good or else Loblaws wouldn't have made such a big investment in the new Independent grocery store.

He has everyone guessing who is going to buy his prime main street location when he moves Curry Motors to its spacious new digs next to the Independent but they'll have to keep guessing. There's someone interested in the building but they won't say who the tenant will be.

"It won't be a dollar store," Popple laughs, referring to the two new dollar stores which are opening on main street – one as part of Henwood's Variety and one as part of Home Hardware. (More on that later.)

Popple says "We think this town's growing. We think

[the investment in a new building] is worth it, Loblaws must think it's worth it and whoever is buying this place must think it's worth it. There are obviously people who think this town's going to move ahead."

There have been rumours that Canadian Tire is interested in moving to Haliburton. "There's no truth to that at this point," says Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey.

But he is hopeful that a chain store will invest here, keeping local dollars here and attracting more customers to the village.

There's very little the municipality can do to control what happens on the main street. "It's out of our control," he says. Even though sometimes people get hurt when investments fail, "it's a free enterprise system."

He identifies duplication as one of the main street's biggest problems. On top of having lots of crossover in existing stores, there's not enough variety in the type of stores, something that will become even more pronounced when the two dollar stores open.

"Everybody is in everybody else's business – but that's the marketplace," Fearrey says.

That's also one of the reasons Jim Henwood is tearing out the wall that separates Henwood's Variety from what is now Greg Walling's Liberal campaign office to put in a dollar store once the election is over.

"A variety store on its own just can't survive," he says. "Everyone's into what a variety store sells – they all sell chocolate bars, they all sell chips."

Along with big box stores, dollar stores are showing the fastest growth in the retail sector. He considered going with one of the chains of dollar stores but franchise costs are too high. Still, if he does only half the business that one chain was predicting when he went shopping for a new business idea, he'd be happy.

"I read about it and the market's out there," he says. He dabbled in a bit of dollar store merchandise in his

See "We're all" page 9



Greg Walling

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2006
Beaverton Royal Canadian Legion
517 Mara Road, Beaverton ~ 10 am to 12 Noon

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2006
Minden Community Centre ~ 2-4 pm
55 Parkside Street, Minden

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2006
Lindsay Inn ~ 2-4 pm
354 Lindsay Street South, Lindsay

Please bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to local food banks.

'We're all fighting for the same dollar:' V&S owner

from page 8

existing store but he didn't have the space to do it properly since you have to buy in bulk.

"I've got the location, I'm right downtown and I have people already coming in," he says. "It's not like I'm starting from scratch. I'm going to capitalize on people buying more than they were going to buy [when it was just a variety store.]"

Asked about the dollar store that closed in Haliburton a couple of years ago, Henwood said that its closure wasn't for lack of a customer base. His research shows that people from all income brackets shop at dollar stores.

With all of his items selling for one to three dollars, he says he is not competing for the same customers who are going to V&S and the new Bargain Shop. "The dollar store is a market underneath that."

Andy Glecoff, the owner of V&S, disagrees.

"We're all fighting for the same dollar," he says. "Are we over-saturated in that kind of merchandise? Yes we are."

His store already has a dollar section - he boasts that it's actually 97 cents - and he might expand it to retain his market share.

In retailing, he says, there's good, better and best. When they bought Stedmans, they sold good. The Glecoffs still have the good but over the years they've expanded into the better, stocking brand name items that are in the medium price range.

Ray Langdon, who owns Haliburton Home Hardware, says that he wasn't aware of Jim Henwood's plans when he started the process of turning the space currently occupied by Bowes and Cocks realty into a dollar store about six months ago.

He too started dabbling in dollar store items when the village's dollar store closed and the items sold briskly. His business also needs a main street entrance, something it doesn't have at present.

"The trouble is most dollar stores have 8,000 sq. ft. and we have only 1,000 sq. ft." he says.

Home Hardware does supply some dollar items but not enough to fill the space. Langdon has found suppliers in Toronto to stock the shelves.

He can't turn back on his plans now that he knows Henwood is also opening a dollar store because he's already made an investment in such things as shelving.

"There will be one at each end of town so hopefully we'll have a different selection, but a lot will be similar because that's what sells," he says.

Asked why Haliburton couldn't attract a store like Bigley's, which has become a destination store in downtown Bobcaygeon for higher-end shoes and clothing, Andy Glecoff says it all boils down to that business axiom: location, location, location.

"We are a victim of our geographic area. I think we're too far from the Toronto market to support a Bigley's," he says. "The road to Haliburton goes nowhere. I don't think Haliburton can become a destination downtown. You've got a captive audience and that's your local citizens and there aren't enough of them. We need the locals' support but you cannot turn a profit without the vacationers and tourists...."

"Bigley's is an anomaly. It's an amazing store. It should not exist in that market."

Ironically, when the *Echo* phoned Bigley's owner to find out what has made it such a success in a small town, Sherry Peel had to apologize for not having enough time to talk. It was the Friday afternoon before the New Year's long weekend and with the store's annual 40 per cent off sale going on, there were so many customers in the store that she couldn't take time off for an interview.

But Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey offers another reason why you can't simply say "If Bobcaygeon can have a strong main street, why can't Haliburton?" Bobcaygeon has something else that Haliburton doesn't have: flat land. The hills and lakes are what make people want to come to Haliburton but it's also what makes it so tough to find suitable space on which to build. He rejects the notion that a lack of town water is putting chain stores off the idea of investing here. There's lots of potable water; it's the lack of land that's hemming the town in.

Glecoff also says price may be a factor. He looked into the cost of leasing the front half of the former Valumart. The back half is taken up by the Bargain Shop but the section overlooking main street is still empty. Loblaw's, which has control of the building, is asking \$20 a square foot. At 3,500 square feet that adds up to \$70,000 a year. What retailer in Haliburton could afford that?

"There aren't enough dollars here. No one wants to take a chance. What do you do in January, February and March?"

Spring will bring many other changes to main street

Here are some of the other businesses changes on main street:

- Bowes and Cocks has bought what's called the old Austin house next to Jug City.

Realtor John Parish says it will be a good move for the company. "It's a good location and it gives you that cottage, country feeling. There's a verandah and you're coming into a house."

Ironically, the real estate office will be next door to what was once a two-storey house that had Brohm's Real Estate, where Parish once worked, on the main floor.

The key to doing well off the main street will be proper signage, Parish says.

Bowes and Cocks must be out of its present location by the end of January.

- The Old Country House is for sale. Owner Uta Carl says she and her sons are ready for a change. They hope the new owner will keep the building as a restaurant.

- Marty's Health Foods is moving into the former home of Pasta ta Pizza. (The Italian restaurant is in the midst of building a new restaurant between Sharpley's Source for Sports and Varty's Jewellers.)

Owner Rolf Gryciuk and his wife Marty are excited about the move. It will give them twice as much space which means they'll be able to go back to serving local knitters. They'll also be adding a new knitters' club as well as cater to weavers and spinners. Local master weaver Wendy Bateman will be part of that expanded service.

The move takes them off the main one-block strip of stores but Gryciuk is far from worried. "People say we'll be across the lights but I say we're across the street from the liquor store with lots of parking."

- Vasey Insurance has had to move to the lower level of V&S during the changeover for Henwood's Variety but it will be back on main street by the first of April. It will be occupying the space vacated by Marty's.

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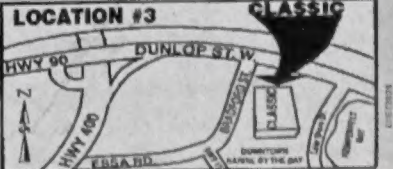
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DARREN LUM/Echo

Sunny ski

Skiers and snowboarders were basking under the sunny skies at the Sir Sam's Ski

Area, located outside Eagle Lake, on December 30. Sir Sam's is in its 40th year of operation and is open every day through the holidays (Dec. 26 - Jan. 8) from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All of the Area's runs are open and will operate five days a week from Wednesday to Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Popular Jackrabbit ski program begins January 7

A cold December and regular snowfalls mean that skiing started early and has provided a lot of fun for the young and lots of calorie-burning exercise for their parents in the past couple of weeks. The woods have been particularly beautiful this year.

The Haliburton Ski Club has many programs for skiers of all ages and abilities, with the premier program being the Jackrabbit where youngsters learn to ski.

The Jackrabbit ski group will begin on Saturday, January 7 from 1:30-3:00 at Glebe Park. Parents of children 4 to 11 years old should bring both the kids and their equipment to the park in plenty of

time to get registered for another year of fun and skiing.

Each child is registered with Cross Country Canada as either a Bunny Rabbit or a Jack Rabbit. The Saturday classes start with warm up exercises, followed by nordic skills and games, depending on the ability and age of the child. At 2:45 p.m. everyone heads to the clubhouse for hot chocolate.

Last year the Haliburton Ski Club once again set a new record for participation

in the Jackrabbit program, and we'd like to increase participation again this year.

I've noticed two benefits of this fine program that Jane Heyes works hard to organize. First, I've noticed some great young skiers who learned to ski as Jackrabbits. Some are now regional champions, and some will soon be on the podium.

Secondly, I've noticed some families who began skiing together because of the Jackrabbit program, so consider setting an example for your

children by getting out and skiing while they learn the fundamentals.

Any young family should consider learning ski skills through cross-country skiing. Children develop ski skills more quickly on cross-country skis, plus it builds fitness faster than any other activity.

In addition, a family can ski for a whole season on the Haliburton Nordic Trails system for about the price of one day of skiing at an alpine resort.

All in all, the ski pass you buy is a great deal. If you haven't gotten yours yet, then visit www.skihaliburton.com or call Joleen at 286-3649 to get the details.

cross country skiing
nordic notes
Blake Paton

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Raffle kickstarts fundraising campaign for expansion of Haliburton Curling Club

The Curling Club had its Christmas dinner and dance recently at the Haliburton Legion. More than 150 members attended.

The turkey and ham dinner prepared by the Legion Auxiliary was outstanding. Gary Cameron played fabulous music and Chris Zahn's social committee outdid themselves with the decorations and entertainment. The two elves, Pat Dickson and Ariel Campbell, greeted the guests at the door and escorted Barry Devolin who dropped in to congratulate the club on its expansion plans.

President Chester Howse announced the first two fundraisers for the clubhouse expansion. First there will be a raffle with first prize being a home theatre in a box including a 32" high definition LCD TV by LG; second prize is a top-of-the-line Weber barbecue; and third prize is a Monday-to-Friday golf membership at Lakeside Golf Course. Members will be selling tickets in early 2006 and the draw will take place at the Home Show on Sunday, June 4, 2006.

On February 17 and 18 there will be a three-game bonspiel and roast beef dinner for all members of the curling club. This will be the first of "Building the House" curling events.

The fall 2005 draws are now complete and the results are as follows—

Monday Senior Mixed – Bev Martin, Draw master

First Place: Skip Ted Rule, Vice Dick Duchemin, Second Teddy Stuckless and Lead Luba Glachan

Second Place: Skip Glen Carter, Vice Ian Eyers, Second Lindsay Ploughman, and Lead Jack Campbell

Third Place: Skip Joe Iles, Vice Brian Hambly, Second Hilda Attridge, Lead Lolita Mitchell

Monday Night Competitive Mixed – Bob Johnson, Draw master

"A" Division
First Place: Skip Bob Johnson, Vice Greg Scheffee, Second Bob McNaull and Lead Andy Gruppe

"B" Division
First Place: Skip David Gray, Vice Art Dawson, Second Jim Bradley, and Lead Jeff Ainsley

Regular Schedule
Winners: Skip Del Watson, Vice Tom Parrish, Second Wes Lytle and Lead Brian Murison

Tuesday Women's League – Norma McCoy, Draw master

First Place: Skip Sandra Duchemin, Vice Mary Ellen Sheridan, Second June Beadle, Lead Elli Armstrong
Second Place: Skip Willie Cox, Vice Cheryl Rasmus, Second Mary Hambly and

Lead Adele Pope

Third Place: Skip Fern Timbers, Vice Brigitte Bassie, Second Mary Lou Waggett and Lead Norah Hill

Tuesday Evening Mixed – Jeff Ainsley, Draw master

First Place: Skip Bob McNaull, Vice Ann McNaull, Dennis Sobil and Lead Bunny Scott

Second Place: Skip Del Watson, Vice June Beadle, Second Marilyn Watson and Lead Marilyn Rydberg

Third Place: Skip Jack Cox, Vice Willie Cox, Second Sharon Fennell and Lead Keith Waggett

Wednesday Evening Mixed – Dale Robinson, Draw master

First Place: Skip John Smillie, Vice Cheryl Smillie, Second Art Cook,

Lead Rosemarie Cook

Second Place: Skip Lise Ainsley, Vice Bill McCoy, Second Keith Anderson and Lead Norma McCoy

Third Place: Skip Del Watson, Vice Kim Lewis, Second Marilyn Watson and Lead Ross Partridge

Thursday Seniors Mixed – Gary Thorpe, Draw master

First Place: Skip John Smillie, Vice Betty Hicks, Second Pat Dickson and Lead Mary-Ann

Second Place: Skip Gerry Palmer, Vice Bryce Blair, Second Marilyn Wagg and Lead Luba Glachan

Third Place: Skip Bev Martin, Vice Wilf Guenette, Second Keith Waggett and Janet Tice

Thursday Night Men's – Bob Johnson, Draw master

First Place: Skip Bob McNaull, Vice Andy Glecoff, Second Peter Forgrave and Lead Joe Zahn

Friday Men's – Brian Murison, Draw master

First Place: Skip John Smillie, Vice Vic Ibbotson, Second Bryce Blair and Lead John Glachan

Second Place: Skip Don Wetmore, Vice Murray Norman, Second Paul Johnson and Lead Pete Montgomery

Third place: Skip Wayne Hussey, Vice Chester Howse, Second Ray Luck and Lead Gord Arthur

Once again the curling club members donated over \$500 and several boxes of groceries to the 4Cs.

A special thanks to all the draw masters and Bill Hare for his scheduling assistance to make these fall draws run smoothly, and also to John Watson for great ice conditions.

A safe and happy New Year to all the members.

Happy Curling — see you on sheets in 2006.

haliburton curling club

curling news

Wendy Vermeersch

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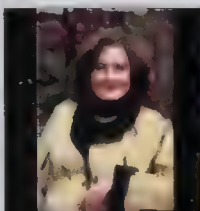
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HAPPY NEW YEAR 2006

Wishing past, present & future clients and their families good health and many blessings throughout the coming year.

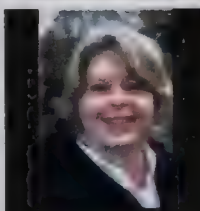


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Countrywide

Firearm bans are not the way to control violence

from page 7

Earlier indicative statements made by high-ranking Liberals such as "Only the police and military will have firearms" and "The debate is over" only serve to confirm the Liberal Party mandate.

The ultimate ban of rifles and shotguns will lead to the elimination of deer, moose, and bird hunting; the closing of hunt camps; the folding of local gun clubs; the elimination of competitive shooting sports; the destruction of hobbies; a decline in tourism; closings of local businesses, and the end of game harvesting. Imagine the increase in deer herds (with its inherent problems) and of course the increase in the bear population. Various personal accessories associated with the shooting sports will be rendered worthless and useless.

This is not what we want for Haliburton County nor for the rest of

Canada. Proof exists that firearm bans don't work - look at what has happened in England and Australia - in our modern society. Firearm bans in those countries haven't stopped rising violent crime statistics.

There is reason to be concerned: the Liberal Party has erred and is heading in the wrong direction in an attempt to resolve crime issues.

Do not think that a complete ban on all firearms cannot happen in Canada

Before Election Day there are many issues to consider - some of which include health care, farming, pensions, and the economy. And "Firearm Bans" is one very important issue.

January 23 is your day to make a difference. Make your vote count.

Mike Grinnell
Loon Lake

The County of Haliburton



PUBLIC BUDGET MEETINGS

The County of Haliburton will be holding two Budget Open Houses to informally review the draft 2006 budget with the ratepayers.

The first one will be held Monday, January 16, 2006 at the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce between the hours of 7 pm and 9 pm. The second will be held Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at the County Council Chambers in Minden between the hours of 7pm and 9pm.

The Council of the County of Haliburton will also be having a 2006 budget meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25, 2006 at the County Council Chambers in Minden.

For further information please contact Laura Janke at 286-1333 ext. 224 or ljanke@county.haliburton.on.ca

Reader offers tips on safe winter driving

To the Editor:

After 53 years of driving of just about anything with wheels, and only one accident, thank God, I noticed a lot of new young drivers are too tense or over-confident in their driving habits even if they have taken driver's-ed. I know from experience that we are all occasionally forgetful of the rules of the road. I was taught many years ago when I was 16, the four C's. "Care - Caution - Courtesy - Common Sense".

On coming down a steep hill, especially during the winter months, move the gear-shift to neutral; that way the transmission is not driving the wheels when braking which should be applied with constant pressure, not jammed on or pumped. If backing down a steep incline or hill, again shift to neutral and again at slight but constant pressure or the brake and put on the four-way flashers to warn anyone behind you. Plus, should you go into a ditch, a rescue would be much easier because you would be seen.

If you hit black ice which could be under the snow and you loose control, which in most cases means you are dri-

ving too fast for road conditions or looking at our passenger next to you when talking instead of watching the road, take your foot off the gas pedal and do not brake just yet. Steer in the direction the front wheels are taking you to get out of the skid and always keep both hands on the steering wheel, when the vehicle is almost stopped, gradually apply constant pressure on the brake till stopped.

If this is your first occurrence or the twentieth, pull over in a safe place, put on the four-way flashers, I hope they are working for at the three or four minutes it takes to unwind and be thankful you are safe. You have learned a lesson and please, pass it on to someone else, it might save their life.

This is for automatic transmission vehicles only. Should you be driving a standard transmission vehicle a different set of procedures apply.

I hope a lot of people have learned something from this letter. Happy New Year to all.

Paul Charron,
Haliburton.

Keep veterans' memories alive

from page 7

we expect our children to understand. Maybe they don't have to; maybe it is like believing in God. You've never seen him but you know he is there. It is in education. They can't be informed unless they are taught.

We must keep the memories alive for several reasons, so that we are better human beings with a greater under-

standing and empathy for others, so that history does not have the opportunity to repeat itself and also just because they are really cool stories. The Year of the Veteran might be over but the pride and freedom we have should be with us for the rest of our lives.

Cindy Hall
Wilberforce



AUDITIONS

Auditions for the Highlands Summer Festival's 2006 season productions will be held Saturday and Sunday January 14 & 15 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. Audition packages are available at the locations listed below or may be downloaded from the Highlands Summer Festival web site. This year's productions will require ten women and ten men ranging in age from 20 to 60+ and three to ten children/adolescents 9 to 17 years of age.

Please note: You must register in advance to attend an audition. Registration and audition information, character descriptions and an explanation of the commitment expected of anyone interested in taking part in this season's productions is included in the audition packages. Audition packages can be picked up at:

Kitchens Etc.
Highland Street
Haliburton

The Storeroom
138 Main Street
Minden

BACKSTAGE ASSISTANCE

Highlands Summer Festival is also looking for volunteers interested in assisting in a number of back stage functions including set construction and painting, assistant stage management, strike and set crew, ushering and ticket-taking, wardrobe and other areas. Anyone interested in learning more about these opportunities should contact the Producers:
Dave Mills--754-2999 or Heather Smith 4572218.

www.hilandssummerfestival.on.ca

Reach for The Future

For the eighth year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters. To date the 2005 "Reach for The Future" campaign has raised \$65,672.00. The proceeds will assist the Foundation to pay off the \$880,000 capital loan on the Health Care Facilities.

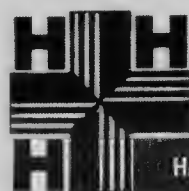
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David & Pearl Rickard
Lydia Roberts
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Kenneth & Elizabeth Sinclair
Ruth Stephenson
Brenda Watson

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation sincerely thank our Honourary Chairmen for our 2005 "Reach for The Future" campaign, Dr. Bob Heyes and Dr. David Fiddler.

If you would like to help us "Reach for The Future" this Holiday Season, your gift can be sent to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or Box 30, Minden, ON K0M 2K0 or you can deposit your gift in the donation boxes at the Minden and Haliburton Facilities.



A Foundation For The Health Of The Highlands

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION



DARREN LUM/Echo

Pylon power

Jackson Dobbie, with the aid of two pylons, skates after his mother Tracy at the far end of Dysart et al Arena during the public skating on December 29. The arena is open for public skating for the holidays on Jan. 4 and 5 from 2 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. Admission is \$1. Public skating is also available every Sunday from 12 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. except for Jan. 22, Jan. 29 and Feb. 26.

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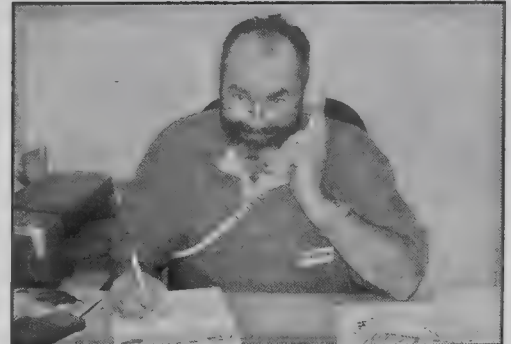


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Christmas togetherness

Don and Judith McKay joined volunteers from Lakeside Baptist Church at a special Mission of Love dinner for those whose families lived far away. The Christmas day turkey feast attracted almost 80 diners and volunteers.



Stefan and Elena Bjelis, Gord and Pam Forbes, Heather Alloway and Barry Hart (not in photo) join head chef Emily Bjelis in enjoying the meal they had prepared. Emily is studying to become a chef.

Unique role awaits a young actress

Highlands Summer Festival to stage *The Miracle Worker*

It has been described as the perhaps the most difficult role ever cast by Highlands Summer Festival. And yet, the young actress who will get the part will have no dialogue to memorize.

The role is that of young Helen Keller, the blind and deaf girl who is the focus of the play, *The Miracle Worker*. "It is a part like none other we have seen on our stage," Summer Festival President Dave Mills says. "Without words, the young actress must capture the emotion and turmoil locked inside the mind of Helen, as her teacher, Annie Sullivan, struggles to help her break free from her dark and soundless prison."

The inspirational play is based on a real-life story of the triumph of Helen Keller and her mentor Annie Sullivan.

The roles of Helen and Annie will not only be emotionally intense, they will be physically demanding as well. Young Helen is coddled by her family and when Annie is hired to teach her, she enforces a strict regimen to which Helen reacts with frustration and physical outbursts.

"These will be demanding parts for sure," Mills says, "but, they will also be very rewarding for the actresses chosen to fill them."

The roles are just two of close to 25 which will be cast January 14 and 15 during the audition call at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. *The Miracle Worker* has additional players ranging in age from nine to 70.

In the Norm Foster comedy, *Maggie's Getting Married*, the call is for six actors, four in their 30s and two in their early fifties. The second comedy, *Over The River and Through The Woods*, requires two pairs of grandparents in their mid 60s or older and two younger actors in their mid 20s.

"There is an interesting range in ages and genders for this season's plays," Mills says.

The Festival encourages area residents with limited stage experience to audition for roles. "We are a regionally based community theatre company, which prides itself in producing stage work of a high calibre. We are also proud of our commitment to helping people develop their talents," Mills says.

Complete information on this year's auditions is included in the audition package available at Kitchens Etc., Highlands Street, Haliburton, and The Storeroom, Main Street, Minden. Copies can also be downloaded from the company website, www.highlandssummer-festival.on.ca



PUBLIC NOTICE

Ratepayers and supporters of the Trillium Lakelands District School Board can find 2004-2005 Audited Financial Statements at www.tidsb.on.ca

Financial Statement Package includes:

- Auditor's Report
- Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
- Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities
- Consolidated Statement of Changes in Financial Position
- Schedule of Operating Fund
- Schedule of Capital Fund
- Schedule of Internally Restricted Reserve Funds
- Schedule of School Activities Fund
- Notes to Financial Statements

Further information can be obtained by contacting Susan Kirkpatrick at the Trillium Lakelands District School Board Corporate Office:

P.O. Box 420, 300 County Road 36,
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Home to the Highlands



Evelyn Saxby, a fabric artist from Tory Hill, shows off one of her more recent creations.



About 150 people came to the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce on Thursday to enjoy "Home to the Highlands: A Holiday Musical Cabaret with Edgar Thatcher and Friends". The evening – which featured music, food, and artist displays – was in support of the Heritage Guild, the Essonville Church, and the Agricultural Society.



The star of the night was Edgar Thatcher, at left, whose popular Christmas song "Home to the Highlands" was a favourite on local radio during the holidays. Guest violinist Jasmine Dine, above, came all the way from British Columbia to accompany Thatcher's band. Dine was visiting family in the area.

Photos by Lance Crossley

Sleigh ride carolers deliver holiday cheer

community news

West guilford

Eleanor Cooper 754-2388

Christmas joy extended itself on December 23rd, when Karl Upton drove ten people about the village on a trailer ride on bales of hay. They travelled from the Baptist Church up the north shore of Pine Lake Road (Nila's Road) as far as Dick Henderson's. Back to the

store and over to St. Andrew's Crt. as far as Ruth Bain's. Karl drove the songsters who paused at many houses to bring cheer and sing carols. The happy choristers finished by returning to their church for hot apple cider and goodies, a fitting finish for their gift of joy to the community.

Although belated, hearty congratulations to Henk and Rosa Van Nood who celebrated fifty years of marriage on November 26th, 2005. Rosa is a resident at Extendicare where Henk visits every day. His presence is a comfort to many besides his wife.

Juanita (Sisson) Hougstol was home from Alex, Alberta for over a week, happy to come to brothers and

sisters for the holiday time.

Jim and Margaret Milne's families arrived over the Christmas week; Andrew and Nehal with their children Elizabeth and Alexander from Ottawa; Bruce and Crystal with their daughters, Katie and Hannah from Trenton; and Paul and Jody with their daughters, Amanda, Emily and new four-month Madison from Cambridge.

Marg and George Nicholls' family were all home, most with their children as well; Bernie with McKenna, Alberta and Will Upton, Cheryl and Greg with Joel and Nichole and her friend, Tom Kenzis from Kingston, David and his two girls, and Erin and Brianna.

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DARREN LUM/Echo

Fill a cruiser

OPP Const. Mark McMaster accepts food from Haliburton couple Al and Adrienne Gostock. The Haliburton Highlands detachment had a collection at the IGA in Haliburton, filling nearly two trucks of food, expected to be donated to the 4Cs food bank. They also donated \$100 to the Wilberforce Food Bank.

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Heating with wood? Here's how to do it efficiently

To help you make sure your wood heat is "done right" this winter, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has a number of tips for enhancing the effectiveness, safety and efficiency of your wood heating system, including:

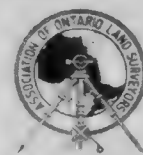
- Newer technology woodstoves burn up to 80 per cent cleaner than traditional stoves. If you're planning a new wood-heating system or think it might be time to replace your older stove, upgrade to an EPA/CSA B415-certified, low-emission, high-efficiency wood-burning appliance to save time, effort - and money.
- For efficient heating all winter long, use only good quality, seasoned firewood that's cut to the right size for your woodburning appliance. Generally speaking, hardwoods like oak and maple are fine for very cold winter weather, while softer woods like birch and poplar make better fuel during the spring and fall.
- When storing firewood, split the wood into a variety of sizes ranging from 8 to 15 cm (3 to 6 inches) in diameter, and cut the logs into pieces that are at least 8 cm (3 inches) shorter than your firebox and probably no more than 40 cm (16 inches) in length. Plus, remember that wood should be stored fully sheltered from rain and snow, as well as close to - but not inside - the house.

- To build a fire with little or no smoke, start by removing excess ash from the firebox. Next, open the air control fully, locate the place where the main supply of combustion air enters the firebox, and build a kindling fire with dry softwood that is finely split to produce numerous edges where the fire can catch.

- To keep your wood heater operating safely and efficiently, try to prevent the wood from smouldering excessively. After an overnight fire, remove a small amount of ash from the front of the firebox, and rake any coals left at the back of the firebox towards the inlet where the combustion air enters.

- Lastly, remember that wood burns best in cycles. So make sure to burn each load of wood down to coals before reloading your stove.

For more information visit www.cmhc.ca or call 1-800-668-2642.



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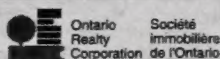
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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST AND SUBMISSIONS OF QUALIFICATIONS

Long-Term Lease Opportunity
Leslie M. Frost Centre
RR# 2, Minden, Ontario
RFQ No. 05C027

The Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC), on behalf of Ontario's Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal, is pleased to present an opportunity for a party or parties to enter into a long-term lease of the main campus of the Leslie M. Frost Centre, for the primary purpose of investing in, and operating environmental and outdoor educational programs with possible compatible secondary uses.

This 39-acre property is located in the Township of Algonquin Highlands, about 12 km south of the Town of Dorset, with frontage on Highway 35 and Lake St. Nora. There are 26 buildings and other structures on the site, comprising over 90,000 sq. ft. of gross floor area. For nearly 60 years until July 2004, the Ministry of Natural Resources operated these facilities as a natural resource educational and training centre.

The purpose of this Request for Expressions of Interest and Submission of Qualifications (RFQ) is to seek submissions from parties interested in pursuing this potential opportunity. The RFQ is the first step in the process towards the selection of a suitable proponent with whom ORC intends to enter into a leasing arrangement.

Full details of this invitation are provided in the RFQ document which can be viewed on the ORC website at www.orc.on.ca by clicking on the "Business w/ORC" tab. As specified in the RFQ document, parties desiring to submit a proposal must register their interest in writing, no later than 3:00:00 p.m. EST on January 24, 2006 at the following address:

Ontario Realty Corporation
Tenders Office
77 Wellesley Street West
10th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2G3

Late or misdirected registrations will not be accepted and will be returned unopened. Registrants must identify one contact person; provide a return mailing address; and, other contact information such as telephone, e-mail or fax. Such notice of registration for this RFQ must be clearly identified on the envelope as 'Frost Centre RFQ Registration' and can be either delivered, couriered, or sent by registered mail to the above ORC address. Registrants for this RFQ will be assigned a personal reference number and will be allowed to make an appointment to examine various documents and materials related to the Frost Centre lands and structures. Only RFQ submissions received from Registrants will be accepted.

Any questions regarding the content of the RFQ document should be forwarded in writing, via e-mail indicating 'Frost Centre RFQ' to Connie Locke, Project Manager, at Connie.Locke@orc.gov.on.ca

DEMANDE D'EXPRESSION D'INTÉRÊT ET DE QUALIFICATION (DQ)

Possibilités de bail à long terme
Centre Leslie M. Frost
R.R. n0 2, Minden (Ontario)
DQ n0 05C027

Au nom du ministère du Renouveau de l'infrastructure publique, la Société immobilière de l'Ontario (SIO) est heureuse d'offrir à une ou plusieurs parties la possibilité de louer à long terme le campus principal du Centre Leslie M. Frost afin d'y créer et exploiter des programmes de sensibilisation à l'environnement et aux activités de plein air. Le Centre pourra éventuellement être utilisé à d'autres fins compatibles.

Cette propriété de 39 acres est située dans le canton d'Algonquin Highlands, à environ 12 km au sud de la ville de Dorset, et longe la route 35 et le lac Ste-Nora. Elle comprend 26 bâtiments et autres structures qui ont une surface hors oeuvre de plus de 90 000 pi2. Pendant près de 60 ans, jusqu'en juillet 2004, ce site était administré par le ministère des Richesses naturelles et servait de centre d'éducation et de formation aux richesses naturelles.

L'objet de la présente Demande d'expression d'intérêt et de qualification (DQ) est d'obtenir les propositions de parties intéressées. La DQ est la première étape du processus de sélection du soumissionnaire apte à mener à bien ce projet avec qui la SIO conclura un bail.

Les détails complets de cette invitation figurent dans la Demande de qualification (DQ) que l'on peut consulter sur le site Web de la SIO à <http://www.orc.on.ca> en cliquant sur « Business w/ORC » (en anglais seulement). Tel que précisé dans la Demande de qualification (DQ), les parties qui souhaitent présenter une proposition doivent exprimer leur intérêt par écrit en s'inscrivant, d'ici le 24 janvier 2006, à 15 h heure limite, à l'adresse suivante :

Société immobilière de l'Ontario
Bureau des appels d'offres
77, rue Wellesley Ouest
10e étage, Édifice Ferguson
Toronto ON M7A 2G3

Les demandes tardives ou mal adressées ne seront pas acceptées et seront renvoyées sans être ouvertes. Les soumissionnaires doivent fournir le nom d'une personne-ressource, ainsi qu'une adresse où leur répondre, et d'autres coordonnées, telles que numéros de téléphone ou de télécopieur, ou courriel. L'avis d'inscription à la présente DQ doit figurer bien en évidence sur l'enveloppe comme suit : « Inscription à la DQ du Centre Frost », il peut être livré en personne, par messenger, ou envoyé par courrier recommandé à l'adresse de la SIO mentionnée ci-dessus. Les soumissionnaires recevront un numéro de référence individuel et pourront prendre rendez-vous pour examiner les divers documents et matériels en rapport avec les terrains et structures du Centre Frost. Seules les DQ provenant de soumissionnaires inscrits seront acceptées.

Veuillez adresser toute question sur le contenu de la DQ par courriel portant la mention « DQ du Centre Frost » à Connie Locke, chef du projet, à : Connie.Locke@orc.gov.on.ca

Municipality of Dysart et al



BUSINESS ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

Proposals will be accepted for advertising on the side of the Zamobini Ice Resurfacers at the Haliburton Arena. Advertising space will be rented on both sides of the Zamboni for a period of three (3) years. The businesses will be responsible for the purchase of the sign(s), subject to material approval by the Arena Manager.

Dysart businesses interested in this advertising opportunity may submit a proposal in a sealed enveloped marked "Zamboni Advertising" on or before noon on Monday, January 9th, 2006. If sending by mail, please address to:

Municipality of Dysart et al
135 Maple Avenue
P.O. Box 389
Haliburton, Ontario
K0M 1S0
Attn: Tammy McKelvey, A.M.C.T.
C.A.O./Clerk

Highest or any advertising proposal will not necessarily be accepted.

community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

Sponsored by

HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME & MONUMENTS

HWY. #118 / P.O. Box 721, HALIBURTON, ONTARIO K0M 1S0
(705) 457-9209

"Providing a service that respects your wishes"

We are pleased to announce the addition of our new website
www.communityfuneralhomes.com...one more way we can be of service to you.

Owned and Operated by Duane & Lori Lloyd

CURRENT EVENTS

- **Jan. 10:** Ontario Early Years Minden Family Supper Night is taking place on January 10, 2006 for families with children 0-6 years. While enjoying a nutritious meal with your child and other families join us for information on how to manage difficult behaviours with our guest Darlene Box from Family Services. Please call to register by Monday, Jan. 9, 2006 at 286-1770.
- **Jan. 12:** Ontario Early Years Centre Minden – Well Baby Drop-In will be held from 10 a.m. to noon in (Sears Building). Visit with a Family Health Nurse to see how your baby is growing and developing. For information call the Health Unit, 457-1391.
- **Jan. 12:** Ontario Early Years Haliburton Family Supper Night is taking place on Jan. 12, for families with children 0-6 years. While enjoying a nutritious meal with your child and other families join us for information on how to handle your child's whining and temper tantrums. Call to register by Wed., Jan. 11, 2006 at 457-2989.
- **Jan. 12:** Ladies Fellowship – The West Guilford Community Centre, Thurs., Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Theme: New Beginnings. Special Speaker: Ruth Carter. Feature: Mary Gryciuk of Marty's. Music: Donna Lee Sisson. Join us for a ladies night out! For more info. call Lyn at 457-3155 or Alice at 754-2808.
- **Jan. 17:** Haliburton Highlands Prostate Cancer Support Group will not be holding its regularly scheduled December meeting due to the holidays. We wish all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our next meeting will be Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge, Highland Crest Senior Citizen's Home in Minden. Call Rick Ratcliff at 286-6699.
- **Jan. 18:** Parent-Child Kindergym – The Ontario Early Years Centre, in partnership with Haliburton Dance Arts, will be offering "Kindergym" for parents and their pre-school children. 6 week session starting Wed., Jan. 18, 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Physical Journeys, Main St., Minden. Instructor: Terri Mathews. Call the O.E.Y.C. at 286-1770 to register as spaces are limited. There is no cost, donations appreciated.
- **Jan. 19:** Haliburton Well Baby Drop-In Clinic. Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton – Visit with a Family Health Nurse to see how your baby is growing and developing. Held in Haliburton (Halco Plaza) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call the Health Unit at 457-1391.

ON GOING EVENTS

- **Join Ontario Early Years Centre in Haliburton** for an exciting new parent child series. Cooking with Kids is a four-week program. Parents will leave with ideas to continue the learning at home. Call Stephanie at 457-2989 for info or to sign up
- **Indoor walking** as a health promoting activity has begun again from 7:30 to 8:15 a.m., the halls of Archie Stouffer Elementary School. Walkers meet outside the custodian's office. No charge. For more info call Morris, 286-6079.
- **The Minden Women's Institute** meets in the Common Room at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden at 1:30 p.m. every 3rd wed. of the month with exceptions: Apr. 19 - Hanna Casper (Cox Farm Rd.) 1:30 p.m.; May 17 - Bea Berry 1:30 p.m.; June 21 Common Room 11:30 a.m.
- **Ontario Early Years Centre** is offers Free Developmental Screening Clinics by appointment only. Held at the Centre (behind Sears). Call 286-1770 to register.
- **Now until May 29/06:** Adult Badminton – Mondays 8 to 10 p.m. Starting Sept. 19 to May 29, 2006 at Archie Stouffer Elementary School, Minden. Join us for fun, fellowship, and fitness. Phone 286-1765 for further info.
- **Thursdays are all about Babies** at the Ontario Early Years Centre in Haliburton. While babies sleep and play parents share the joys and wonder of parenting. If you have any question about your infants care, or growth and development the HKPR Health Unit offers a Well Baby Drop In on Nov. 17. from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Breastfeeding Support is offered weekly. For further info., please call Stephanie or Wendy at 457-2989.
- **Do you enjoy euchre, bridge, and other card games?** Come to the Card Night at the Fort Irwin's Residents' Assoc. Hall (FIRA) on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 p.m. For more info call Ken Fuller at 754-3699.
- **Ontario Breast Screening Program** – for women 50 years and over, screening by appointment only on Thursdays and Fridays at Ross Memorial Hospital. No doctor referral necessary. Call (705) 328-6175.
- **Community Care Haliburton County** has volunteers just waiting to give seniors 55+ or physically disabled adults a Security Check Phone Call. If you know of anyone who needs a phone call once a day, please call Judy at 457-2941.

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editor@haliburtonecho.ca, or brought in to the office. Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date.

NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands.

E-mail Subscriptions to:
lemmerson@haliburtonecho.ca
E-mail Classifieds to:
ssisson@haliburtonecho.ca

THE ECHO Classifieds

Call 457-1037 to place an ad

**This Space
Could Be
Yours ... It
Pays to Advertise!
Ph. 457-1037**

Deadline: Ads to appear in Tuesday's paper must be in before 5 p.m. the preceding Friday. Call 457-1037 or Fax 457-3275

260 SERVICES

HAIR EMPORIUM
Total family hair care
Hwy. #118W,
2 km from Haliburton
Open Monday - Friday
Piercing available.
Call Lynn or Margo at 457-3008
CA

MIKE A. THOMSON
• Roofing
• Renovations/Repairs
• Carpentry
Cell: 457-6365
Home: 489-2436
CA

ROOF SHOVELLING - Jim McKelvey, • Fully Insured. • (1-888) 212-7543 (Toll Free) or (705) 286-1581 (Home).

SNOW PLOWING - Cottage roads, parking lots, driveways. Seniors discounts. Call 457-1892. CA

SNOW PLOWING - Driveway, Cottage Roads, Parking Lots. Plus sanding. Call 754-4042.

THE WINDOW GUY
Professional window and carpet cleaning.
Fully insured.
Call for earliest bookings,
457-9239.
CA

270 HEALTH & FITNESS

Register Now!!
PHYSICAL JOURNEYS
FITNESS
Winter Programs
January 9 - March 30.
Minden & Haliburton
Certified Fitness Trainer
Lorie Kah 457-3224
...

Minden Location
NEW WINTER PROGRAM
'HOLNESS YOGA'
10:30 a.m. Fridays
Register, Gail Holness 455-9294.
CA

STEP IT FITNESS - Winter Session
Starts January 9th. Step Aerobics/Wts/Pilates/Ball. Noon/evening classes. Certified Instructors. Call 457-1052 Ext. 205, for info. CA

280 MOVING & STORAGE

BLAKE PUBLIC STORAGE
Hwy. #118, Haliburton
Many sizes
Convenient location
457-2250
CA

CARNARVON STORAGE
from only \$26.99 mos. + GST
8 sizes / DISCOUNTS
New! Climatic Storage
286-4981
CA

290 COMING EVENTS

HALIBURTON LEGION
POOL LEAGUE
Every Wednesday evening
at 7:00 p.m.
Starting December 7, 2005
Members and Guests.
For information please contact
Chris Briggs.
457-1724
CA

RETIRED TEACHERS
OF ONTARIO
Haliburton Unit
are having their annual
Chickadee Luncheon
at the Old Country House,
Haliburton
Monday, January 16th
at 12:00 p.m.
A flat rate will be charged.
All R.T.O. Members, Retired
Teachers and Guests Welcome.
Members will be telephoned.
For non-member reservations, call
Louise Cooper at 754-9129
by January 10.

290 COMING EVENTS

WILBERFORCE
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
General Annual Meeting
Wednesday, January 12, 2005
Pot luck dinner - 6:00 p.m.
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Lloyd Watson Centre.
All are Welcome.
CA

300 ANNOUNCEMENTS

DID SANTA FORGET?? If you didn't find a Highlands Summer Festival season pass in your stocking Christmas morning, there is still time to get one at pre-Christmas pricing. Until January 15, you can purchase a season pass for only \$65...it is like giving yourself a gift of four great shows for the price of three. The 2006 line-up includes: Maggie's Getting Married; The Miracle Worker; Over The River and Through The Woods; and our classical music concert, If Music Be The Food Of Love, Play On! Season passes are now on sale at The Storehouse in Minden, Kitchens Etc. in Haliburton or call the box office at 705-457-9933, for more information. Don't forget, this offer ends January 15. CA

WEST GUILFORD
RECREATION CENTRE
is available for:
Parties, Weddings, Banquets,
Anniversaries, Showers, Stags
Bingo every Mon. 7:15 p.m.
Euchre every Tues. 7:00 p.m.
Full kitchen, bar and hall facilities available at reasonable rates. Call Alison & James at 455-2365. CA

FOSTER FAMILIES NEEDED

"Are you ready to make a difference?"

Is parenting one of your most highly valued skills?

Do you have a thirst for learning, enjoy new ideas, love a challenge?

Would you like to join a talented, enthusiastic and dedicated team of professionals?

The Kawartha-Haliburton C.A.S. is looking for foster parents. If you have an interest/experience in working with children please call Wendy at 1-800-661-2843 or 705-743-9751 #203.

380 BIRTHS

LLOYD JOINER - Lianne, Mark and big brother Masey are proud to announce the arrival of
MORGAN
ARTHUR GEORGE
Born November 2, 2005
Weighing 7 lbs. 1 ozs.

400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All claims against the Estate of **PETER EDWARD McCORMICK**, late of the Town of Minden, in the County of Haliburton, deceased, who died on or about September 26, 2005, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of January, 2006, after which date the Estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have notice. DATED at Minden, the 15th day of December 2005. Wendy McCormick, Estate Trustee by her solicitor PINCKARD WYJAD FLEMING ASSOCIATES, Barristers and Solicitors, 5 IGA Road, P.O. Box 850, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0. CA

450 IN MEMORIAM

LYMBURNER, PERCY - Jan. 2nd, 2005. In loving memory of a dear father. We often talk about you with love and not regret. For we dearly loved you and we never will forget. Your loving smile and pleasant face are a pleasure to recall. He had a kind and gentle word and died beloved by all. Some day we hope to meet him. Some day we know not just when. For just to clasp his hand. Never to part again.
Elmo and Nona.

460 OBITUARIES

AT REST JOHN PETER "Jack" HILL

Passed away at the Haliburton Hospital on Tuesday, December 27, 2005
at the age of 83.

Beloved husband of Shirley (nee Thomson). Dear father of Chris (at home), Peter and Karen of Belleville and Alison of Everett, Washington U.S.A. Loving grandpa of J.D. and Alannah. Dear brother of Lois (Rod) Mens of Mount Pleasant, Keith (Mildred) Hill of Ingoldsby, Betty (Norman) Harrison of Minden, and great nephew of Celia Brown of Lochlin. Fondly remembered by his nieces, nephews, family and friends. Friends were invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden (www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com) on Friday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Funeral Service was held in our Chapel on Saturday, December 31, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. Reception followed in the family centre. Spring Interment at the Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery. Memorial donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) or to the Ross Memorial Hospital Foundation would be appreciated by the family. CA

AT REST

PATRICK (Pat) BRENNAN
Formerly of Montreal, long time resident of Haliburton, and at the Highland Wood Long Term Care in Haliburton. Passed away peacefully on Monday, December 26, 2005, in his 92nd year.

Father of Barry of Halifax, Nova Scotia, brother of Eileen Brennan of Montreal, the last member of the immediate Brennan Family. Predeceased by his wife Catherine Beaubien of Montreal, predeceased by his brothers Joe, Jack, Clarry and predeceased by his sister Mary O'Brien. Loving uncle to many nieces and nephews. Pat worked for many years at the Montreal Waterfront and was a member of the International Longshoremen's Association. A Mass of Christian Burial to Celebrate the Life of Pat Brennan will be held at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Haliburton on Wednesday, January 4, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. with visitation commencing at 1:00 p.m. Cremation to follow. Memorial donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 (or online at www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com). CA

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to work for you!*
Call us Now!
457-1037

460 OBITUARIES

HORTON, JOHN - In his 75th year on Friday, December 16, 2005. Loving Father of Yvonne Marshall (Al) of Grimsby, Bradley Horton of Welland, Shirley Goodwin (Dan) of Fergus, Christine Horton of Haliburton, and Scot Horton (Janice) of Welland. Cherished Grandfather of 9 Grandchildren and 3 Great-Granddaughters. John will be sadly missed by his good friend Mona. Former husband of June (McPhail Horton) Forsyth (Doug) longtime camper at Rip's Sleepy Hollow (West Guilford). Davidson - Walker Funeral Home, 152 Helles Ave., Welland, have been entrusted with the arrangements for Mr. Horton. Visitations were held Sunday, December 18, from 2-4. Funeral Service was Monday, December 19 at 11 a.m. at the Funeral Home, with cremation to follow. As expressions of sympathy donations can be made to the Canadian Cancer Society, and the Canadian Diabetes Association, if so desired.

MOORE, MYRTLE MILDRED (Ail-corn) - In her 101st year, passed away on December 23, 2005. Wife of George Edward who predeceased her by 34 years. Mother of June and the late Jim. Grandmother of Lisa and Steven, aunt of Phil and Margaret Allcorn, Fred and Barbara Gregory, Joan and Fred Chapple, Andrew and Marlene Parker, and Nancy and Terry O'Loane. "Mom" to Don and Jacqueline Bellamy, Grandma to Dawn and Kevin, Sarah and Dennis, and Stuart and Sue. Great-aunt to Susan and Peter, Mary and Leonard, and Jean and Mike and great-great-aunt to their children. She was known as "Grandma Myrtle", to several hundred young people through Canadian Girls in Training and the Baptist Leadership Education Centre. Services arranged by the Dixon-Garland Funeral Home were held on Thursday, December 29, 2005. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec or the Markhaven Foundation.

ROBERTSON, MARILYN - At Haliburton Hospital on Tuesday, December 27, 2005 in her 78th year. Beloved wife of Alan "Robbie" Robertson. Beloved mother of Stephen (Jennifer) of Orillia. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Nicole and Ryan. Dear sister of Jack, William, Alan, Brenda, David, Dennis and Bob. Predeceased by her sister Ruth and her brothers. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Friends are invited to visit with the family at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME, Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Friday, February 3, 2006 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. A Memorial Service will be held in the Chapel on Saturday morning, February 4, 2006 at 11 o'clock. Interment later Maple Lake United Church Cemetery. As expressions of sympathy donations to the Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary would be appreciated by the family. CA

460 OBITUARIES

SISSON, PHYLLISS (Upton) - Peacefully at Scarborough General Hospital on December 25, 2005 in her 77th year. Phylliss, beloved wife of the late Arthur Sisson. Predeceased by daughter Doreen. Dear mother of Nancy (Dave) Hillison and Kathy (Wayne). Daughter of Gertrude Upton. Sister to Jean (Allan) McKnight and Stanley (Julie) Upton. Sister-in-law to Dorothy Upton and Frank Sisson. Grandmother to Ray, Rodney, Darryl, Leeann and Dylan. Great-Nanny to Brad, Jessie, Christopher, Blake, Alecia, Hope, Trinity, Kaylynn and Martina. Sadly missed by many pieces and nephews. Private cremation was held. Burial will take place at St. Peter's Anglican Church in the spring. Mother, may you now have found peace. Donations in Phylliss's memory may be made to a charity of your choice.

WOOLSEY,

Sharon, Elizabeth
Passed away quietly at her home after a long battle with cancer, surrounded by her family, on Wednesday, December 21st, 2005. Sharon Woolsey of Peterborough in her 55th year. Loved and missed by her husband Gord and her children Taryn and Christopher. Lovingly remembered by her parents Thomas and Phyllis Cook of Lindsay. Also missed by her brother Leo Cook (Leslie Gifford-Cook) of Peterborough and her sisters Kathryn Pakenham (Robert) of Peterborough and Susan Hamer (David) of Oakwood. Survived by several nieces and nephews. Friends and relatives called at the HENDREN FUNERAL HOME, Lakefield on Monday, December 26th, 2005 from 6-9 p.m. A funeral service was held from St. John's Anglican Church, Lakefield on Tuesday, December 27th, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Canon Ron Davidson officiated. Cremation. Memorial donations may be made to the Haliburton Highland Health Services Foundation or St. John the Baptist Anglican Church as expressions of sympathy. Friends may send condolences or make donations at www.hendrenfuneralhome.com

460 OBITUARIES



At Rest FISCHBACH, Frances Louella "Lou"

Passed away peacefully at Hyland Crest, Minden on Thursday, December 22, 2005 after a lengthy illness at the age of 66. Beloved wife of Carl Fischbach of Carnarvon. Loving mother of Jonathan (Rita) of Calgary, Karin (Glenn) of Toronto & grandmother of Tabitha. Dear sister of Irene Villamere of Renfrew, Earnest LaBarge (deceased) of Windsor, Rita Leeder of Lake St. Peter, Agatha West of Huntsville, Teresa Smith of Whitby, Marjorie Schmidt of Cambridge, Janet Murray (deceased) of Cambridge, Helen Sellen (deceased) of Mississauga, Verna Bastien of Mississauga, Raymond LaBarge of Kitchener. Predeceased by her parents Louis and Frances LaBarge of Whitney. Fondly remembered by many nieces, nephews, family and friends. A Private Memorial Service for family and close friends was held at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden K0M 2K0 (or on line at www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com) on Wednesday, December 28, 2005. Cremation has taken place. Memorial Donations to the Hyland Crest Residents Council would be appreciated by the family.

**THE
DEADLINE
FOR
CLASSIFIEDS**

is Friday

at 5 p.m.

Phone us at

457-1037

**YOU CAN USE
INTERAC, VISA
OR
MASTERCARD
TO PURCHASE
AN AD.**

**THE DEADLINE
FOR THE
Community Calendar
is Thursday at 5 p.m.**

NOTE:

Please inform us when the events are over.



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286-2911
1-800-567-1985 • MINDEN

754-4242
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E-mail: hilands@halhinet.on.ca



Troy Austen*
Linda Baumgartner*
457-1011
ext. 231

\$239,000



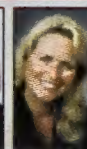
HALIBURTON HOME

4 bdrm, 2 storey home. Quality construction, 3 baths, plenty of room to room with livingroom, family room and sitting room. 4.85 acre lot with walking distance to town.

\$375,000



Julie Gray*
457-1011
exts. 230 & 237



Marilyn Hawley
457-1011
exts. 230 & 237

COMMERCIAL, HALIBURTON

Building & land only. Commercial property located on main street of Haliburton Village, a thriving resort destination, across from municipal dock and parking lot and Head Lake Park. 4,912 sq feet building space inc. office, large finished showroom, spacious eat-in kitchen & cafeteria space. 2nd storey space, heated workshops, large 3 bay garage plus 3 washrooms. Large parking area at rear of building.

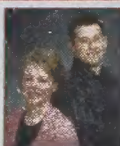
\$495,000



BUSY & VIBRANT COMMERCIAL BUSINESS

Exciting, energetic & successful business opportunity, well timed & well located in the heart of the Haliburton Highlands. Fully equipped & staffed computer sales/service, video rentals, internet cafe & online games room. Features include complete line of new release videos plus huge library of popular & classic editions & game rentals; network server 2 terminals for internet cafe.

\$229,000



Ken Barry* & Deb Deremo*
457-1011
exts. 228 & 232

DRAG RIVER ACREAGES from \$34,900 to \$64,900

Your choice of seven beautifully treed riverfront lots with an excellent location on the edge of town. With access off a municipally maintained road, they offer the peace, tranquility and privacy you've been looking for. Good building sites to choose from, with hydro and telephone available at the road. Call for all the details!



Bill Kulas*
286-2911
ext. 44

BRUNSWICK ROAD

Immaculately maintained three bedroom bungalow with full walk-out basement. Featuring 2 baths (including ensuite), stone fireplace, finished family room, large country kitchen, private, nicely treed and beautifully landscaped lot, only minutes from town. Attached garage, workshop, newly installed propane gas furnace and many extras await your inspection. A pleasure to show. Call Bill Kulas today to view.

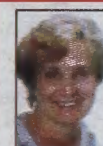
ASKING \$189,500



KUSHOG LAKE AREA

This immaculately kept, modern and spacious, Royal home was built in 2002. Situated on a very scenic 5 acre lot. Nicely landscaped. Attached 2 car garage, full basement and fully enclosed front verandah. Three extra large bedrooms. Two full 4 piece baths, many extras. A must see! Exudes pride of ownership. Quiet, private setting. A must see. Vendor relocating.

ASKING \$289,500



Cathy Lancia*
754-4242

REDPINE LAKE

3 bdrm, 4 season log cottage. No winter water, but well insulated & cozy w/generator & wood stove. Several out blids incl 2 w/ front & back doors. Lobo, generator, 2 canoes, 2 aluminum boats & motors, log splitter & many other extras & tools. Fully equipped to move in & enjoy. Sauna, septic & water system all work well. Gently sloping lot w/lovely view of quiet & pristine Redpine Lake.

\$239,700



REDSTONE LAKE

Beautiful waterfront acreage on Big Redstone Lake w/over 400 ft frontage & 8 acres of well wooded property one side has an awesome rock ridge for excellent privacy. On the other side is a gradual slope to the lake front. Driveway is in & site is arranged. Clean shoreline has rock & sand bottom w/mixed depth. Lovely Western view up East Bay. Prime waterfront acreage, don't miss it!

\$314,700



Geoff Bunn* & Miranda Newman*
457-1011
ext. 242

176 ACRE RETREAT

Located minutes from the town of Haliburton. This 3 bedroom home/cottage sits close to the shoreline of Bonham Lake. The cottage is full of old country charm w/wood interior & cathedral ceilings. For more information call Geoff Bunn.



\$599,000



Rick Lowes*
286-2911
ext. 47

12 MILE LAKE WATERFRONT

Level, private and beautiful sand beach, good building site. Miles of boating, great fishing and swimming. CALL NOW.

\$199,900

KUSHOG LAKE NEW PRICE!

Custom built executive 3 bedroom cottage / home. Loads of extras includes, bass boat, paddle boat and ski boat. CALL NOW!

\$354,900



Fred Chapple*
286-2911
ext. 43

\$159,500



SWEET & COZY
Older home, 2 bdrm, family kitchen, lots of windows, level lot, all on oak floor. Nice workshop. Older metal septic tank, but still operational.

A GREAT RENTAL OPPORTUNITY
Here is your chance to own a home which boasts "old-world charm", 4 bedrooms + lots of room to room. Has commercial C-1 zoning - start your own home business.



\$124,900

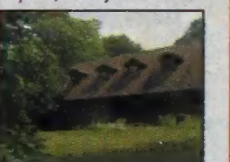


Karen Nimigon*
457-1011
ext. 224

MINDEN

Enjoy the charm & comfort of this authentic log home, hand-crafted & constructed from local red pine. You'll love the 2100+ sq foot multi-level floor plan, catering to your families everyday needs. 3 bdrms, 3 baths, large entertaining area, FR, pine kit. & w/o bsmt w/1 bdrm apt, nestled on 23 acres. This property also features spring fed pond, perennial gardens, fenced horse paddock, & garage. Whether your needs are an all season home or country retreat the rustic beauty of this log home will charm & enchant you.

\$229,000

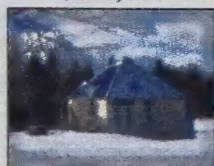


Victor Disik*
286-2911
ext. 45

DUCK LAKE ROAD

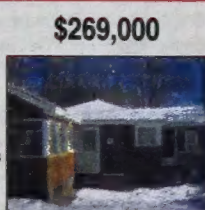
Wow! Only minutes to golfing, skiing, snowmobiling, boating, swimming & fishing. This 3 bdrm home is nestled esthetically into a 5 acre lot close to Minden. A circular staircase sweeps from the lower, to the main & to the upper level. From the kitchen you can walk out to your balcony & enjoy your morning coffee or relax in a bright cozy living room. For viewing ask for Victor Disik.

\$279,000



SOUTH LAKE

This year round cottage/home is about 2 hours to Toronto & only minutes to Minden. A very large kitchen makes entertaining enjoyable. The 3 bdrms are a good size in this 1200 sq ft home. Close to skiing, snowmobile trails & more. This Lake boasts very good bass fishing. Come see for yourself. Ask for Victor Disik.



\$269,000



Elizabeth Thompson*
457-1011
ext. 248

CENTURY FARMHOUSE

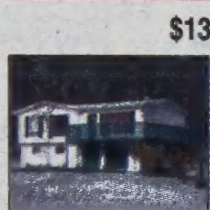
Quaint 5 bdrm home located on Hwy #118 across from Green Lake, a 3 lake chain. Great 4 acre retreat property. House has loads of character. Enjoy the breeze & lake view from the front porch swing. Upgrades in recent years. Lrg loft area can be made into a studio or master suite. New drilled well in 2002. Reshingled in 1997. Call Elizabeth.

\$219,000

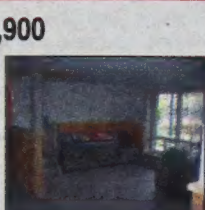


Vince Duchene*
457-1011
ext. 225

Great 3 bdrm family or retirement home located 15 minutes east of Haliburton on Hwy. #118. This home also features 2 baths, finished rec room with w/o as well as a w/o off the dining room to back deck, large, private backyard and more. Call today for viewing!



\$139,900



Ted Vasey*
457-1011
ext. 223

INGOLDSBY

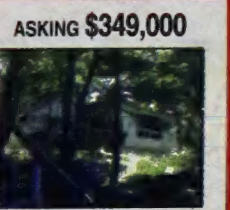
Well maintained 1800 sq ft bungalow. Modern oak kitchen w/island, w/o kitchen to rear deck, new cedar bath with Jacuzzi tub, 3 bdrms, main floor laundry & new roof, new drilled well, close to lake access.

NOW \$169,000



BOSKUNG LAKE

Spectacular view from this 3 bdrm cottage. Country kitchen with a lake view, open concept living room, w/o LR to deck, perimeter foundation, modern septic, natural rock lot, Western view.



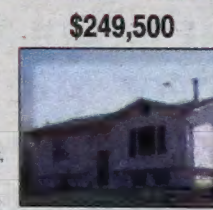
ASKING \$349,000



Lenor Fulton*
Tracy Ackersblade*
286-2911
exts. 23 & 46

RAVINE ROAD, MINDEN

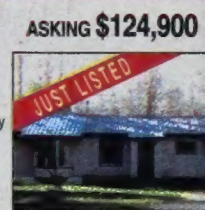
This two bedroom raised bungalow Royal Home with a full walkout basement is situated a short distance south of Minden on a very private 95 acres property. Nicely treed acreage with trails throughout, large deck, modern propane furnace recently installed, spacious eat-in kitchen. Ideal country retreat!!



\$249,500

SWINSON ROAD

Ideal starter or investment/rental home. Situated just off County Road #121, this 3 bdrm bungalow features open concept kitchen and dining area, main floor family room and office/den. Nestled on nicely treed and private 3 acre lot, this home is presently vacant and available for immediate possession.



ASKING \$124,900



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2911
ext. 40

NEW LISTING

DAVIS LAKE ROAD

Two lots (6.9 acres and 6.1 acres) on year round Township road with hydro at lot line and backing onto crown land. Call Melanie for details.

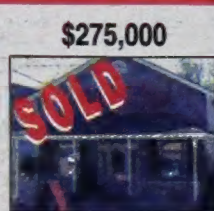
\$17,500/each



Linda Beachli***
457-1011
ext. 227

LOCATION

Prime retail location in downtown Haliburton. Location offers 1,800 sq ft ready for the public and your business, with parking included.



\$275,000

SUNNY & BRIGHT

This legal duplex is beautifully finished with 3 bedrooms upstairs and a self-contained 1 bedroom downstairs. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac of Haliburton Village close to hospital and schools. Park-like setting with trails behind, small pond and trees all around. Move in and have room for visitors or enjoy double rental income. A must see!



\$209,900

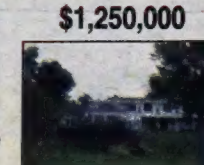


Peter Brady**
457-1011
ext. 234

RESORT OR LARGE FAMILY

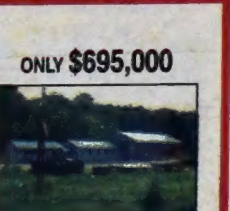
Enjoy Maple Lake with your own 660 feet of waterfront. This multiple building listing has operated as a resort and currently is enjoyed by one family. On the property are a large main lodge with 8 bedrooms, a manager's residence and 11 cabins. Call me for more details.

\$1,250,000



BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Located just south of Minden on the major highway heading north this location offers a production shop, storage shop, administration area with out buildings all on more than 10 acres of multiple zoned parcels of property.



ONLY \$695,000